

## Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 VO-03 SCA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 EUR-12 AID-05

INSE-00 EB-07 /098 W

----- 082548

R 260600Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4892

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

USMISSION GENEVA

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOL, LA, TH, US

SUBJ: LAO-THAI-AMERICAN RELATIONS

1. I CALLED ON THAI AMBASSADOR SWATE KOMALABHUTI AFTERNOON JULY 25 AFTER HIS RETURN FROM BANGKOK WHERE HE HAD GONE ON CONSULTATION. WE WENT OVER RANGE OF ISSUES THAT HAVE CROPPED UP IN RECENT DAYS AND INVOLVED PRINCIPALLY LAO-THAI RELATIONS BUT ALSO AMERICAN RELATIONS WITH BOTH COUNTRIES.

2. LAO REFUGEES IN THAILAND: I WENT OVER CONVERSATION WITH SECSTATE OF MFA KITHONG VONGSAY (VIENTIANE 4943). I EMPHASIZED AS I HAD TO KITHONG FACT THAT U.S. WOULD CERTAINLY FIND PROBLEM SIMPLER IF REFUGEES FREELY DECIDED TO RETURN HOME; HOWEVER, IT WAS OUR CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT THEY WERE AFRAID OF DOING SO. AS REGARDS NEWS REPORTS THAT

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WE WOULD GRANT VISAS TO UP TO 5,000 LAO REFUGEES,

I SAID THIS WAS PREMATURE AS NO LEGISLATION HAD BEEN PASSED. AMBASSADOR ANSWERED THAT HE HAD ALREADY TOLD PGNU THAT RTG WAS PREPARED TO BRING REFUGEES BACK TO LAOS AT THADEUA, BUT THE PROBLEM WAS REFUGEES DID NOT WANT TO RETURN. HE HAD TALKED ABOUT THIS MATTER WITH THAI FONMIN AND WOULD PROPOSE TO PGNU THAT COMMISSION FROM IRC AND PERHAPS UNHCR BE FORMED TO ASK REFUGEES WHAT WERE THEIR DESIRES. HE WOULD OFFER TO HAVE REPS FROM LAO RED CROSS PARTICIPATE ON THIS COMMISSION.

3. MEKONG INCIDENTS: THAI AMBASSADOR INDICATED THAT THIS WAS VERY DIFFICULT. THERE HAD BEEN SOME TWENTY SHOOTING INCIDENTS IN LAST TWO MONTHS. HE WOULD AGAIN PROPOSE TO PGNU CONVENING COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS THIS SITUATION.

4. CLOSING OF THAI CONSULATES: HE SAID THAI CONSULATE IN SAVANNAKHET HAD BEEN RANSACKED. I INDICATED THAT WE HAD AN IMPRESSION PGNU WANTED TO ELIMINATE ALL FOREIGN PRESENCE FROM PROVINCES AND I CITED THE ELIMINATION OF THE FRENCH MILITARY MISSION FROM PAKSE AND JAPANESE VOLUNTEERS FROM SAVANNAKHET. HE TOOK NOTE OF THIS POINT AS HE SEEMED NOT TO HAVE HEARD OF IT.

5. MSESRIE: I MENTIONED THAT OUR EMBASSY IN BANGKOK WAS IN TOUCH WITH MFA ON THIS QUESTION. AS I UNDERSTOOD IT, MATTER WAS NOW IN UNDERSECRETARY'S OFFICE. HE SEEMED SURPRISED THAT IT WAS IN MFA AT ALL AND IN THAT OFFICE IN PARTICULAR SINCE HE HAD SEEN UNDERSECRETARY ON MONDAY AND HE HAD KNOWN NOTHING OF IT. WE AGREED THAT IN LIGHT OF IMPORTANCE THIS SUBJECT MIGHT ACQUIRE, WE WOULD KEEP EACH OTHER INFORMED.

6. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR SWATE IS NOT THE BEST INFORMED OF AMBASSADORS AND NOT THE MOST VOLUBLE. HOWEVER, IT DOES SEEM THAT THE RTG IS TRYING TO DEAL WITH THE NUMBER OF ISSUES THAT HAVE ARISEN BETWEEN IT AND THE PGNU IN A REALISTIC AND SENSIBLE MANNER.

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7. THE QUESTION OF LAO AIRCRAFT AT UDORN DID NOT COME UP AND I DID NOT RAISE IT.  
CHAPMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, REFUGEES, BORDER INCIDENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 JUN 2003  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, LA, TH, US, PGNU  
**To:** STATE  
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